Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-04 /065 W

-----036669 301936Z/64

R 300817Z MAR 78 FM USLO PEKING TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0274 INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CONFIDENTIAL PEKING 0853

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2 TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: DOWNGRADING OF MAO QUOTATIONS

REF: PEKING 802

1. JAPANESE POLITICAL COUNSELOR HAS PROVIDED USLO OFFICER WITH THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF A RECENT CONVERSATION HE HAD HAD WITH CHANG HSIANG-SHAN. DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING AFFAIRS.

2. POLCOUNS NOTED THAT MAO QUOTES IN THE PEOPLE'S DAILY VERSION OF TENG HSIAO-PING'S SCIENCE SPEECH HAD NOT BEEN PRINTED IN THE CUSTOMARY BOLD FACE AND ASKED CHANG IF THIS WOULD CONTINUE. CHANG CONFIRMED THAT THIS WOULD BE STANDARD PRACTICE. HE ADDED THAT THE CHAIRMAN'S SAYINGS WOULD BE NO LONGER CARRIED IN THE PEOPLE'S DAILY ON THE RIGHT HAND TOP CORNER OF PAGE ONE WHERE THE QUOTE OF THE DAY HAD BEEN A FIXTURE FOR MANY YEARS BUT MORE AND MORE OF A SELDOM THING IN RECENT MONTHS. CHANG SAID THAT IT WAS MISLEADING TO QUOTE MAO OUT OF CONTEXT AND THAT SUCH QUOTATIONS HAD BEEN UNFORTUNATELY EMPLOYED BY FOLLOWERS OF THE GANG OF FOUR TO TRICK THE MASSES. BOLDFACE MIGHT STILL BE USED FOR QUOTES FROM MARX CONFIDENTIAL

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AND LENIN BUT IT DID NOT SEEM RIGHT TO PUT THE CHAIRMAN'S SAYINGS IN THE SAME CATEGORY, CHANG SAID. WOODCOCK

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Subject: DOWNGRADING OF MAO QUOTATIONS

TAGS: PINT, CH, (MAO TSE-TUNG)

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